Schemes and master plan at district level

*228. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any proposal regarding preparing schemes and master plan at district level for planned development of rural areas;

(b) the States and districts of the country for which the schemes and master plan are proposed to be prepared in the beginning;

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) by when, this proposal is likely to be accorded final shape?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development is not considering any proposal regarding preparation of Schemes and Master Plans at District level for planned development of rural areas. However, the Planning Commission have decided that ''District Plan Process'' should be an integral part of the process of preparation of State's Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) and the Annual Plan 2007-08. Accordingly, the guidelines for District Plans have been circulated by the Planning Commission on 25th August, 2006 to all the States and UTs stipulating that a summary of the District Plans will have to be presented as part of the States' Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) and Annual Plan (2007-08) proposals. The guidelines define the District Planning as the process of preparing an integrated Plan for the Local Government Sector in a District taking into account the resources available and covering the sectoral activities and schemes assigned to the District Level and below and those implemented through Local Governments in a State. These guidelines have been adopted by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for the implementation of the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) Programme, which covers 250 districts across 27 States.

Insufficient potable water in Ranikhet and lansdowne cantonments

†*229. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that sufficient quantity of potable water is not available in civilian areas in cantonments of Ranikhet and Lansdowne;

(b) if so, the gap between demand and supply of potable water in civilian areas in both the cantonments;

(c) whether any scheme has been formulated for increasing the supply of potable water in both cantonments;

(d) if so, by when the above schemes would be implemented; and

(e) if not, the details of the steps being taken to maintain the proper supply of potable water in above cantonments?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.